

App. No. 10/605,519
Amendment dated March 2, 2006
Reply to Office action of November 2, 2005

REMARKS

Summary of Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 8, which indirectly depended from claim 1 through intervening claims 2 and 7, and to incorporate the limitations of intervening claims 2 and 7 as well. Accordingly, claims 2, 7 and 8 have been cancelled, and the dependency of claims 3, 5, 6, 9 and 11 has been amended.

New claim 14 has been added. New claim 14 recites the subject matter of claims 1, 2 and 10 in their form prior to the present amendment. In addition, new dependent claims 15-21, depending from claim 14 have been added, to recite the subject matter of claims 3-6, 9, 11 and 13 in dependency from new claim 14. Accordingly, new claims 15-21 correspond respectively to claims 3-6, 9, 11 and 13.

No new matter has been added, and no new issues raised; the present amendments are based solely on the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

Sixteen (16) claims all together are pending, two independent claims and fourteen dependent claims. Thus it is believed no additional fees are due to have all of the claims presented by this amendment entered.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 9 and 13; Shoku '291 in view of Tymkewicz '123

Claim 4; Shoku '291 in view of Tymkewicz '123, and further in view of Huebscher '305

Claim 11; Shoku '291 in view of Tymkewicz '123, and further in view of Ward '091

Claims 8 and 10 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 1 has been amended so as to be equivalent to a claim 8 thus rewritten, and claim 14 has been submitted as a claim equivalent to claim 10 so rewritten.

It is thus believed that the present amendment to the claims renders the rejections under this section moot.

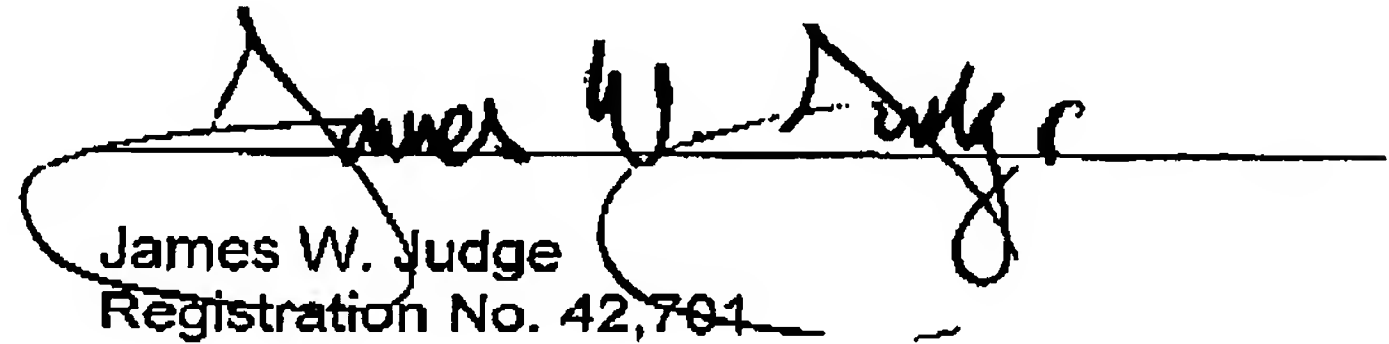
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A response to this Office Action was due by February 2, 2006, and consequently a Petition for Extension of Time, along with a credit-card payment authorization form, is attached hereto. Please consider this Amendment as timely filed.

Accordingly, Applicant courteously urges that this application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is requested. Favorable action by the Examiner at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

March 2, 2006



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